AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel non-elected Claims 13-17 and 23-32 without prejudice and with right of re-entry into this application or any other appropriate application. Please add new Claims 33-42.

Kindly amend Claims 1-6, 8-12 and 18, and add new Claims 33-42 as follows:

1(Currently Amended). A table top ~~having~~ comprising a plurality of leaf elements detachably connected to each other and ~~lying~~ arranged in side by side relationship with respect to each other to form a generally continuous upper surface of said table top, said table top having a length, and a width, each said leaf element having a length~~,~~ and respective first and second side edges~~,~~ extending along the width of the table top, and a width, and ~~respective~~ third and fourth opposing end edges, extending along the length of the table top, each said leaf element comprising a top surface and a bottom surface, said plurality of leaf elements comprising, in combination, interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting adapted to mount said table top to a compatible table frame, each said leaf element further comprising at least one of a connector tab or a connector receptacle slot disposed at an intermediate location on at least one of the first and second side edges, each said leaf element further comprising at least two of end tabs and/or receptacle end slots, disposed adjacent the opposing end edges thereof, the at least one said connector tab or said connector receptacle slot, and the at least two of said end tabs and/or said receptacle end slots, being disposed between the respective said top surface and the bottom surface of the respective leaf element, the combination of said connector tabs in said connector receptacle slots and said end tabs in said end receptacle slots comprising tab-connector combinations which are effective to releasably join said leaf elements together in forming the generally continuous upper surface of said table top, whereby a force imposed on one said leaf element, including at a said end edge thereof, can be transferred to an adjacent one of said leaf elements through one or more of the respective tab-connector combinations.

2(Currently Amended). A table top as in Claim 1 wherein end ones of said leaf elements have a first said side edge bearing said tabs and slots and a second said side edge free from said tabs and slots, and wherein intermediate ones of said leaf elements, disposed inwardly of said end leaf elements in said table top as assembled, have first and second opposing side edges both bearing said tabs and slots.

3(Currently Amended). A table top as in Claim 2 wherein said end leaf elements and said intermediate leaf elements ~~are color coded~~ further comprising visually discernable differences to distinguish said end leaf elements from said intermediate leaf elements, whereby said end leaf elements can readily be visually distinguished from said intermediate leaf elements, thereby to assist a user in selecting the serial order of said leaf elements in said table top during assembly of said table top.

4(Currently Amended). A table top ~~having~~ comprising a plurality of leaf elements ~~lying~~ arranged in side by side relationship with respect to each other, and joined to each other, to form a generally continuous upper surface of said table top, said table top having a length, and a width, each said leaf element having a length, and respective first and second side edges, extending along the width of the table top, and a width, and respective third and fourth opposing end edges, extending along the length of the table top, said plurality of leaf elements comprising, in combination, interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame, each said leaf element further comprising structure assisting in effecting the joinder of said leaf elements to each other in side by side relationship, end ones of said leaf elements and intermediate ones of said leaf elements being distinguished by one of surface texture differences and markings molded into top surfaces of respective ones of said leaf elements, whereby said end leaf elements can readily be visually distinguished from said intermediate leaf elements, thereby to assist a user in selecting the serial order of said leaf elements in said table top during assembly of said table top.

5(Currently Amended). A table top as in Claim 4, each said leaf element having a top surface, said leaf elements further comprising ~~including~~ intermediate connector tabs and slots at intermediate locations of adjoining edges of said leaf elements, and end tabs and slots at ends of said adjoining edges of said leaf elements, such that said tabs and slots, in combination, maintain the top surfaces of said leaf elements in alignment so as to provide a generally continuous upper surface of said table top.

6(Currently Amended). A table top ~~having~~ comprising a plurality of leaf elements arranged ~~lying~~ in side by side relationship with respect to each other, and joined to each other, to form a generally continuous upper surface of said table top, said table top having a length, and a width, each said leaf element having a length, and respective first and second side edges, extending along the width of the table top, and a width, and respective third and fourth opposing end edges, extending along the length of the table top, said plurality of leaf elements comprising, in combination, interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame, each said leaf element further comprising structure assisting in effecting the joinder of said leaf elements to each other in side by side relationship, ~~end ones of said leaf elements and intermediate ones of said leaf elements being color-coded to distinguish said end leaf elements from said intermediate leaf elements,~~ said end leaf elements and said intermediate leaf elements further comprising visually discernable differences, whereby said end leaf elements can readily be visually distinguished from said intermediate leaf elements, thereby to assist a user in selecting the serial order of said leaf elements in said table top during assembly of said table top.

7(Original). A table top as in Claim 6, including intermediate connector tabs and slots at intermediate locations of adjoining edges of said leaf elements and end tabs and slots at ends of said adjoining edges of said leaf elements, such that said tabs and slots, in combination, maintain a generally continuous upper surface of said table top.

8(Currently Amended). A collapsible table frame for supporting a compatible table top thereon, said table frame comprising:

(a) a collapsible table frame body;

(b) first and second pairs of frame top joints mounted for pivotation with respect to a top of said collapsible table frame body; and

(c) first and second table top support arm assemblies, each said table top support arm assembly comprising a pair of table top support arms, first and second table top support arm holders, a support arm pillar for supporting the respective said table top support arm holders, and a ~~pin~~ connector connecting said top support arm holders to each other and to said support arm pillar, each said table top support arm on the respective said table top support arm assembly having an outward end extending away from said support arm pillar and an inward end proximate said support arm pillar, at least one of said support arms on each said top support arm assembly comprising a ~~flange~~ flared portion thereof, proximate the inward end of the respective said support arm, wherein said inward ends of each pair of said table top support arms extend inwardly to slidably connect to said collapsible table frame through respective ones of said table top support arm holders whereby, when said table frame is set up, said ~~flange~~ flared portion of the respective said table top support arm serves as a stop to arrest sliding of the respective support arm through ~~abuts~~ the respective said support arm holder.

9(Currently Amended). A collapsible table frame as in Claim 8 ~~wherein said inward ends of each pair of said table top support arms extend inwardly to slidably connect through respective ones of said table top support arm holders of said table top support arm assemblies,~~ wherein, when the table frame is fully erected, the two support arms in each pair of said table top support arms are parallel to each other and the respective support arms in the pair, in combination, extend along ~~in a~~ generally ~~straight line~~ parallel lines between respective ones of the frame joints, and wherein bottom ends of said two support arm pillars are mounted for pivotation with respect to said collapsible table frame body.

10(Currently Amended). A collapsible table frame as in Claim 9 wherein said table top support arm holders are mounted for pivotation with respect to the respective said support arm pillar thereby to facilitate sliding of ~~enable~~ said table top support arms ~~to slide~~ through said table top support arm holders.

11(Currently Amended). A collapsible table frame as in Claim 8 wherein, in order to collapse said collapsible table frame, each said table top support arm slides through a respective said table top support arm holder inwardly and toward a respective said top joint, and rotates about a said frame top joint such that the inward end of the respective said table top support arm moves downward, with said table top support arm holders in each said table support assembly rotating in opposite directions as the respective said table top support arms rotate and slide inwardly and downwardly to a downward position as said table frame is collapsed.

12(Currently Amended). A collapsible table frame as in Claim 8 wherein, in order to erect said collapsible table frame, each said table top support arm rotates about a said frame top joint such that the inward end thereof moves upward and the support arm slides through a respective said table top support arm holder away from a respective said top joint, with said table top support arm holders in each table top support arm assembly rotating in opposite directions as the respective table top support arms slide outwardly and upwardly as said table frame is erected, sliding movement of said table top support arms being susceptible of being arrested by said ~~flanges~~ flared portions of said top support arms as said table frame reaches a fully erected configuration.

13-17(Cancelled).

18(Currently Amended). A collapsible table, comprising:

(a) a collapsible table frame for supporting a compatible table top thereon said collapsible table frame comprising a plurality of frame elements; and

(b) a table top comprising a plurality of leaf elements ~~detachably~~ connected to each other in serial edge-to-edge relationship to form a generally continuous upper surface of said table top, said table top having first and second ends, and opposing side edges extending between the first and second ends, said table top, when assembled, comprising flanges which extend ~~extending~~ downwardly from respective ones of said leaf elements, and which are located, ~~respective loci~~ inwardly of the first and second ends of said table top, and wherein one or more elements of said collapsible table frame are extensible into respective ones of said flanges thereby ~~interfacing with said table frame so as~~ to attach said table top to said table frame.

19(Original). A collapsible table as in Claim 18, said flanges comprising apertures therethrough, said frame comprising support arms having studs extending into and through the apertures in said flanges, and extending outwardly from the apertures beyond said flanges.

20(Original). A collapsible table as in Claim 19, said studs being extended as said frame is set up, so as to extend through the apertures in said flanges, and retracting through the apertures as an inherent function of collapsing said frame.

21(Original). A method of assembling a table top to a collapsible table support frame, comprising:

(a) substantially erecting the collapsible table support frame, including extending opposing table top support arms of a table top support arm assembly;

(b) positioning the opposing table top support arms a minimal distance inward from a fully erected configuration;

(c) aligning a compatible table top, having mounting flanges extending downwardly from a bottom of the table top, with outer ends of the table top support arms; and

(d) extending the table top support arms into assembling engagement with the mounting flanges on the table top and thereby fully erecting the collapsible table support frame as the table top is being assembled to the table support frame.

22(Original). A method as in Claim 21, including apertures in the flanges, and including extending end portions of the support arms into and through the apertures such that the end portions extend outwardly from the apertures when the table is fully assembled.

23-32(Cancelled).

33(New). A table top comprising a plurality of leaf elements detachably connected to each other and arranged in side by side relationship with respect to each other to form a generally continuous upper surface of said table top, said table top having a length, and a width, each said leaf element having a length and respective first and second side edges extending along the width of the table top, and a width, and third and fourth opposing end edges, extending along the length of the table top, said plurality of leaf elements comprising, in combination, interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements adapted to mount said table top to a compatible table frame, each said leaf element further comprising, as connecting elements, at least one of a connector protuberance or a connector receptacle, disposed at an intermediate location on at least one of the first and second side edges, each said leaf element further comprising at least two of said end protuberances and/or said end receptacles disposed at the respective said side edges, adjacent the respective side end edges of the respective said leaf element, the respective said side edges being substantially devoid of support structure which is adapted to support an adjacent one

of said leaf elements, between each pair of adjacent ones of said connecting elements.

34(New). A table top comprising a plurality of leaf elements detachably connected to each other and arranged in side by side relationship with respect to each other to form a generally continuous upper surface of said table top, said table top having a length, and a width, each said leaf element having a length, and respective first and second side edges extending along the width of the table top, and a leaf element width, the respective side edges having corresponding lengths thereof, each said leaf element further comprising third and fourth opposing end edges, extending along the length of the table top, said plurality of leaf elements comprising, in combination, interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements adapted to mount said table top to a compatible table frame, each said leaf element further comprising, as connecting elements, at least one of a connector protuberance or a connector receptacle, disposed at an intermediate location on at least one of the first and second side edges, each said leaf element further comprising at least two of said end protuberances and/or said end receptacles disposed at the respective said side edges, adjacent the respective said end edge of the respective said leaf element, each of said end protuberances and/or end receptacles being separated from the respective opposing end edges by a distance D1 along the respective side edge, each of said end protuberances and/or end receptacles being separated from a most proximate connector protuberance or connector receptacle by a distance D2 along the respective side edge, the magnitude of the distance D1 being substantially less than half the magnitude of the distance D2, at least a portion of the length of the respective said side edge, along the length of said leaf element, being devoid of support structure which is adapted to support an adjacent one of said leaf elements.

35(New). A table top comprising a plurality of leaf elements detachably connected to each other and arranged in side by side relationship with respect to each other to form a generally continuous upper surface of said table top, said table top having a length, and a width, each said leaf element having a length, and respective first and second side edges extending along the width of the table top, and a leaf

element width, the respective side edges having corresponding lengths thereof, each said leaf element further comprising third and fourth opposing end edges extending along the length of the table top, said plurality of leaf elements comprising, in combination, interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements adapted to mount said table top to a compatible table frame, each said leaf element further comprising at least two end protuberances and/or end receptacles, each of said end protuberances and/or end receptacles being separated from the respective opposing end edges thereof by a distance D1 along the respective side edge, and being separated from a projected location P1 of an adjacent connector protuberance or connector receptacle by a distance D3, the projected location P1 being defined by the intersection of an imaginary line Ln1 which extends between the respective end protuberance and/or end receptacle at a respective said side edge, and an imaginary line Ln2 which extends from an adjacent said connector protuberance or connector receptacle through such imaginary line Ln1 at a perpendicular angle, the magnitude of the distance D1 being substantially less than half the magnitude of the distance D3.

36(New). A table top as in Claim 1, said interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame comprising flanges which extend downwardly from respective ones of said leaf elements.

37(New). A table top as in Claim 4, said interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame comprising flanges which extend downwardly from respective ones of said leaf elements.

38(New). A table top as in Claim 6, said interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame comprising flanges which extend downwardly from respective ones of said leaf elements.

39(New). A table top as in Claim 33, said interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame comprising flanges which extend downwardly from respective ones of said leaf elements.

40(New). A table top as in Claim 34 said interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame comprising flanges which extend downwardly from respective ones of said leaf elements.

41(New). A table top as in Claim 35, said interface structure on respective ones of said leaf elements for mounting said table top to a compatible table frame comprising flanges which extend downwardly from respective ones of said leaf elements.

42(New). A table top as in Claim 3, said visually discernable differences being color coding, effective to distinguish said end leaf elements from said intermediate leaf elements, thereby to assist a user in selecting the serial order of said leaf elements in said table top during assembly of said table top.

42(New). A table top as in Claim 6, said visually discernable differences being color coding, effective to distinguish said end leaf elements from said intermediate leaf elements, thereby to assist a user in selecting the serial order of said leaf elements in said table top during assembly of said table top.